



MELINDA FERRY  
CHAIRMAN

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Human Services Commission

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HOCINE BAOUCHE  
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HELEN FILORAMO  
SUSAN HANNIGAN  
ANNE NICKERSON  
SUSAN STACK  
MIRIAM UNDERWOOD

### HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING JANUARY 10, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman, Melinda Ferry at 6:30 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Yale Cantor, Melinda Ferry, Helen Filloramo, Hocine Boache, Sue Stack

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** The Director began by giving a summary of the 2010 Holiday Season of Sharing Program. The gift giving program was well received by the community. New this year was participation by Town Hall employees. Human Services was aided by local churches, schools, social and civic groups, and individuals with supermarket and department store gift cards, food baskets, toys, and gifts. Troop C in Tolland provided toys through their stuff a cruiser program. All in all it was a very successful holiday program. We had 115 households participate in the season of sharing program. That is 24 more than for Thanksgiving.

Also at this time of the year we receive monetary donations for our food bank and fuel bank. This really helped us out as there has been an increase in the demand for rental assistance which has put a big drain on fuel bank and food bank funds.

The AARP Tax Preparation Program will start up in February and continue until filing time in April. Appointment s will be made through the Senior Center but held at Arbor Common is the Conference Room. This year returns will be processed online. This will make it faster for residents to get their refunds and at the same time reduce the error rate and cut down on paper and copying time. We are very pleased to be able to offer this program to residents.

New grants through ERASE may benefit our youth services and prevention programs if space can be found to run additional programs. This program would be a pre-intervention program. Youth Services and Prevention have done a great job in Ellington with existing grants from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. This would be a wonderful addition to great programs already being offered in the school system.

**SENIOR CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE:** The Senior Center Steering Committee has met several times since its inception in November. The Committee has been meeting every two weeks either at the Building Department or the Senior Center. The group has toured several senior centers in the area from Glastonbury to Stafford. Members took notes and photos for later discussion. The Town Planner gave a presentation on available sites in Town for purchase or lease. The Committee has been divided into sub-committees and charged with different tasks ranging from room size and function to site selection. This is a very active task-oriented group. Meetings are open to the public.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** This group and Human Services will make a presentation before the Capital Improvement Committee. The steering committee will request a one- time planning-only site study funding. While Human Services will be requesting funding for the expansion the Human Services-Recreation Complex at Arbor Common for additional space for Youth Services. The request will be for additional office and counseling space and a small conference /activity room to be used by staff from both departments.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The budget preparation for 2011-2012 has got off to a good start with contract agencies submitting their budget proposals on time and submitting modest increases. Other than contractual staff increases we are not anticipating any major increases in the budget. This year we may have additional increases in the Senior Center budget for operational cost of the physical plant and transportation services.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motioned (Y. Cantor), Seconded (S. Stack) and passed by all those present to adjourn at 7:45 P.M.

Submitted by,

Doris R. Crayton  
Acting Secretary